

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Joseph K. Barth, DOB 9/18/72, of Windsor, Wisconsin, was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 6 months in federal prison for unlawful possession of a firearm. Barth pleaded guilty to this charge on March 31, 2006.

On November 29, 2004, Barth attempted to purchase a .44 magnum revolver. Barth's purchase was denied because of his three prior domestic violence convictions. Further investigation revealed that Barth possessed a shotgun on several occasions in November 2004 while hunting in Waterloo and Deansville, Wisconsin. Federal law prohibits the possession of a firearm after a conviction for domestic violence. Barth was specifically warned after his 1999 domestic violence conviction that he could not possess a firearm.

The charges against Barth were the result of an investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney David J. Reinhard.

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